2. (Twice Amended) The polymer according to claim 1, wherein the polymer includes from 0.01 to 50 wt.-% of cyclodextrins and/or cyclodextrin derivatives, relative to the weight of the polymer.

5. (Twice Amended) The polymer according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer is prepared by polymerizing up to 40 wt.-% of monoethylenically unsaturated monomers other than the monomers bearing acid groups.

8. (Twice Amended) The polymer according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer has been subjected to surface crosslinking using from 0.1 to 10 wt.-%, relative to the weight of the polymer, of a crosslinker component.

11. (Twice Amended) The polymer according to Claim 1, wherein the cyclodextrins or cyclodextrin derivatives are ionically bound to the polymer via carboxylate, sulfate, sulfonate, or quaternary amino groups.

- 16. (Twice Amended) A method for absorbing aqueous fluids, wherein the fluids are absorbed by polymers according to Claim 1.
- 17. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the polymers are in hygiene articles.
- 18. (Twice Amended) A method for releasing an active substance, wherein the active substance is absorbed into a polymer according to Claim 1, and then released from the polymer.

(Amended) The polymer according to Claim 2, wherein the polymer comprises from 0.1 to of cyclodextrins, and/or cyclodextrin derivatives relative to the weight of the polymer.